

those just offered, is the present existence on Penikese of the following plants, most of them conspicuous, some of them dominant elements of the vegetation:

Athyrium angustum	Smilax rotundifolia
Thelypteris palustris, var. pubescens	Sisyrinchium graminoides
Typha latifolia	Myrica caroliniensis
Panicum virgatum, var. spissum	Rumex maritimus, var. fueginus
Danthonia spicata	Amelanchier oblongifolia
Distichlis spicata	Rubus pergratus
Scirpus validus	Rosa palustris
Carex hormathodes	Prunus serotina
C. silicea	Rhus typhina
Juncus dichotomus	Parthenocissus quinquefolia
J. Greenei	Oenothera biennis
J. effusus, var. costulatus	Ligusticum scoticum
J. acuminatus	Asclepias syriaca
J. articulatus	Galium Claytoni
	Sambucus canadensis

It is difficult to believe that all these plants could have escaped the attention of the compiler of the original list and we are rather forced to the conclusion that they have made their advent to the island since 1873. By just what means they may have made their way to Penikese and just how much significance may be attached to their occurrence there today, are matters for conjecture. Certainly they are not species preëminently adapted for wind dispersal, although *Typha* and *Asclepias* constitute exceptions to this statement, and spores of the two ferns may possibly have been transported by that agency. A few of them, such as *Scirpus validus*, *Juncus acuminatus*, *J. articulatus* and the *Rumex*, which grow in or around ponds, may have been brought in by birds, while a few others have fleshy seeds or fruits and may also have been introduced in this way. On the other hand, the presence of this large block of recent arrivals may be merely illustrative of what takes place on these islands when the practice of raising sheep is discontinued, although it is difficult at first sight to see just why these particular species should have been kept down until recent times when so many others were not only present in 1873 but have survived the "prolonged struggle for existence against grass and sheep."

(To be continued)

THE CAPE COD CEANOTHUS.—In the sandy open woods of "Middle" Cape Cod (from eastern Barnstable to Harwich and Brewster), where the characteristic flora is that of the southern Coastal Plain, the New

Jersey Tea (*Ceanthus americanus* L.) does not look like the common and typical form of the species on the mainland of New England. I first collected the Cape Cod extreme in 1919, though the late Emile F. Williams had gathered good material as early as 1896; but until now my own collections have awaited identification. Upon examination the plant of the Middle Cape seems inseparable from *C. intermedius* Pursh, Fl. Am. Sept. i. 167 (1814), described from "woods of Tennessee [Pursh consistently wrote Tennessee]. . . . Leaves not one fourth the size of the foregoing species" (*C. americanus*). *C. intermedius* is treated by Trelease as *C. americanus*, var. *intermedius* (Pursh) Trelease in Gray, Syn. Fl. N. A. i¹. 410 (1897) with a range from South Carolina and Tennessee ("acc. to Pursh") to Florida and Louisiana, the variety having the narrower leaves very much smaller than in typical *C. americanus* and the "peduncles very slender, mostly numerous." The shrub of middle Cape Cod well matches the small-leaved southern extreme, except that its leaves are more densely pubescent and it is certainly extremely floriferous, branches appropriate for the standard herbarium-sheet showing 10-37 inflorescences. On the "Upper" Cape (in Bourne) and elsewhere about Buzzards Bay the plant is typical *C. americanus* or slightly transitional to the variety.

The following northern specimens are referred to var. *intermedius*. MASSACHUSETTS: dry ground near Pleasant Lake, Brewster, August 3, 1911, *Sinnott*; border of dry woods, Brewster, *Fernald & Long*, no. 18,731; dense shrubs 3-6 dm. high, dry pine woods and clearings, Harwich, *Fernald*, no. 18,732; sandy bluff, Centerville, July 5, 1896, *E. F. Williams*,—M. L. FERNALD, Gray Herbarium.

CAREX KNIESKERNII DEWEY

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WHILE botanizing along the roadside in East Hebron, New Hampshire, in the summer of 1927, the writer gathered a strange looking *Carex*. Pressure of other matters prevented comparison of it with Gray Herbarium material until considerably later, when Prof. Fernald showed that it definitely matched *Carex Knieskernii* of Dewey.

As a result of his observation that this plant occupies a poorly defined status, these notes are offered as a contribution towards its possibly acquiring a more secure position.

In looking over the literature, the treatment accorded the plant